

LAST EDITION.

FRIDAY EVENING.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, JANUARY 29, 1909.

FRIDAY EVENING.

TWO CENTS.

KANSAS DAY CLUB BANQUET BUT ONE LEFT SWEEP BY WINDSTORM. GENERAL CLIMATIC CHAOS

Birthday of the State Will Be Celebrated Tonight.

Dinner Will Be Held in Masonic Hall.

ORGANIZATION IS OLD.

It Was Formed in Topeka Eighteen Years Ago Today.

Nearly All Prominent Men in State Have Been Members.

Many Have Served as President of the Club.



W. H. VERNON,
Secretary.
A Busy Man Today.

Forty-eight years ago today Kansas was admitted to the Union of the states. That is not very long ago when the age of a state is being reckoned. New Hampshire is 133 years old and so are a half dozen others of the Atlantic states that do not compare with their young sister of the empire of the west in wealth, progress and power. There are states in Europe over a thousand years old, and no larger than Kansas and still a thousand years behind the Sunflower state in wisdom, happiness and application of the art of civilization. Forty-eight years is but a day in the life of commonwealths but in that day the young Jayhawker has performed miracles, but it is with only one of these miracles that this article has to deal.

Young blood to act, old age for counsel was the rule in Kansas in the old days as well as elsewhere, but the breath of the prairie makes young men grow strong quickly and the Kansas sunshine ripens youth in a wondrous short time as well as it does wheat and corn. It being agreed then that the Kansas air and sky and soil are different, it is not strange that the young men of this state were among the first to chafe under the yoke of their youth and inexperience and seek the honors and profit of politics as well as the privilege of doing all the shouting and marching and a large part of the voting.

Organization Eighteen Years Old.
Eighteen years ago today a party of these young men gathered in the parlors of the Throop hotel to talk the matter over and devise ways and means to make their elders give up some of the spoils of political victory. They said late to talk it over and ended by eating supper together. It was their state's birthday. So they made it quite an event—that supper and impromptu speeches were made eulogizing the glories of Kansas.

After the discussion, the supper and the speeches was born the light of an idea, and that was organization. They would get together, these young Republicans, and gain strength from their union.

What was more natural than that they should call their organization, formed on January 29, 1892, the Kansas Day club? And some inspiration decided them to give a banquet once a year on that date at which young Republicans only should be the hosts, speakers and controlling factors. They would merely have a state another year on that date at which young Republicans only should be the hosts, speakers and controlling factors. They would merely have a state another year on that date at which young Republicans only should be the hosts, speakers and controlling factors.

Not since the Sons of Liberty tossed the British tea chests into Boston harbor has there been an organization of young men that has done more for their state in the way of its political and commercial advancement than the Kansas Day club has done for Kansas.

Banquets Grow Larger.
Each succeeding banquet on the night of January 29 was larger, more influential, better than its predecessor. Each one of these annual meetings of the club gave a state another orator, thinker, statesman, genius in the management of affairs. That banquet board was as prolific of great men as the French Revolution which gave France Napoleon and his twelve marshals, each one of the latter a hero and a genius in battle second only to his master, and all of them sprung from the despised peasant families, called the canaille.

From a club composed of individuals this organization became a state affair. From a banquet it evolved into a political school whose graduates reached every state that mortals desire and ruled every (political) foe save death.

The old timers who had taken all

Fire Panic in Theater Prevented by Cool Heads.

Audience Calmed by the Manager and the Star.

THE PLAY WENT ON.

While Smoke Poured in From Adjoining Building.

Man Who Went Through Iroquois Disaster "On the Door."

Chicago, Jan. 29.—There were five minutes last night when Harry J. Powers, manager of Powers' theater, sat in the front row of the auditorium wondering whether he had not taken a chance of another Iroquois disaster.

Fire had been discovered in the building next door, 145-147 Randolph street, and was making rapid headway when Mr. Powers stood in the center aisle of the theater and, addressing a large audience, said: "There is a fire in the neighborhood, but there is no danger of the theater being damaged, so do not be alarmed at any sounds you may hear or even if smoke enters the building."

Just at that moment Robert Edson, star of the company playing at the theater, appeared on the stage. Mr. Edson knew of the fire and knew that under these conditions a hundred of the greatest orators, brightest lawyers, bravest reformers, most learned judges and noted statesmen of Kansas would probably never have been heard of outside their own countries but for that electric storage battery which is always part of the menu at the Kansas Day club banquets.

Graduated to Congress.
Every member of the Kansas delegation at Washington won his spurs as an orator at the Kansas Day banquets. There is hardly a man in public life in the state today, under middle age who has not taken an active part in one of these seventeen past celebrations of Kansas' birthday.

The List of Presidents.
Harry Frost, now a Detroit capitalist, was the first president of the club, and after him came in turn, Ewing Herbert, Philip P. Campbell, Charles M. Harger, J. E. Junkin, W. Y. Morgan, Arthur Capper, Charles L. Scott, H. P. Mason, Charles S. Finch, William A. White, Victor Murdock, S. S. Fitzpatrick, John Dawson, S. H. Brandon.

The names of the speakers and guests now known to Kansas fame would fill a city directory. It has been and is still an unwritten law of the club that no person should speak twice at a banquet, and it was this wise provision that gave the state so many talented young men to take a leading part in its affairs.

For Republicans Only.
The only requisite for membership in the club was that the applicant should be a Republican and buy a plate at the banquet. Whosoever will let him come, and many there were who came to that fountain of fame.

The club's popularity and usefulness has not waned. The last four or five banquets have been only too well attended, and the attendance would fill a city directory. It has been and is still an unwritten law of the club that no person should speak twice at a banquet, and it was this wise provision that gave the state so many talented young men to take a leading part in its affairs.

With the passing of the railroad pass it has been feared that the interest would abate and the attendance fall off, but the party convention and state and county committees went out with the pass, so that the Kansas Day club is now the only party organization to speak of in the state. It might be said that the day of its greatest usefulness has just arrived.

The Banquet Tonight.
The banquet tonight, to be given at the Masonic temple on Jackson street at 6:30 sharp, will be as well attended as any. The program is as good. The interest is still there. And more important still, this affords the only chance in the year for the gathering of the party leaders together in council before the love feast.

Some of the boys who speak tonight will take the places of older members of the club, now in Washington, or on the supreme court bench, or in the state house, or in some place of trust and honor.

This banquet tonight is one of the fixed Kansas institutions and there is none greater than this one.

S. B. Haskins, President.
S. B. Haskins, president of the club and toastmaster, will speak from the subject, "Political Independence."

Mr. Haskins is from Olathe and was born in Johnson county. He is a graduate of Baker university and is serving his third term in the Kansas house of representatives. He is a farmer and a

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One of Unusual Severity Passes Over Kansas.

Electric Signs, Barns and Store Fronts Destroyed.

THE WIND IS SEVERE

Velocity Reaches 66 Miles an Hour This Morning.

Telegraph Wires Down and Communication Hindered.

Light Snow Falls During the Night.

For the past twelve hours Kansas has been in the center of a wind storm belt and the indications are that there has been no loss of life nor great damage to property. Bill boards, electric signs, barns and outbuildings were blown down in Topeka and several plate glass fronts in business houses were demolished. According to the weather department the trouble was caused by a whirling cyclonic storm which had its center over northern Kansas Thursday afternoon.

This storm reached its greatest intensity early in the afternoon and passed over Topeka between 4 and 4:30 o'clock, when it will be remembered there was a calm and the sun shone for a few minutes. Prior to this time the wind had blown from the south at a rate varying from 25 to 30 miles an hour. As soon as the storm center had passed over Topeka the wind shifted to the northwest and increased in velocity until at 8:30 this morning it was blowing at the rate of 66 miles an hour.

As the storm center approached Topeka Thursday afternoon the barometer fell rapidly and at 4:30 when the storm center was directly over the city measured 28.1 inches, the lowest measurement recorded since the 29th day of March, 1899, when the wind reached a velocity of 96 miles an hour. At this time the barometer was somewhat lower than it has been during this storm period.

The high winds demoralized the Associated Press service. Still the State Journal has been able to obtain quite a large quantity of news for this evening. Several columns of the Kansas City Press were carried over to Kansas City early this morning, before the wind caused so much trouble, the news being mailed from Kansas City to Topeka. Later in the day the Associated Press succeeded with a wire over the postal lines, giving Topeka direct news telegraphic connections with the outside world. Part of the markets were received over the Bell telephone wires, but about 1 o'clock both telephone companies had lost their telephone connections with the east.

The extent of the storm can not be determined for several days, as all means of communication with the outside world have been affected by the storm, even the trains are running behind time from the disarray of the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies were down in dozens of places as did the wires of the independent and Bell Telephone companies, though the local lines of the latter are working in fairly good shape.

The Bell telephone wires were working all right this morning, the State Journal markets coming that way.

Storm a Hurricane.
The storm is designated by the weather bureau as a "hurricane" and the storm which is responsible for the existence of the present one is branded a "cyclone" by the same authority. The rain and mist which fell during the late hours of daylight Thursday changed to snow with the approach of night. By the time the theaters were being emptied of their patrons the storm was on in good shape and the elements seemed to face the wind and cutting flakes of snow.

The mercury failed to get rattled although the elements seemed at war with each other and the minimum for the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock this morning was 21 degrees above the zero point. While not supplied with official information the indications are that the storm will continue throughout the day and night.

During the night the precipitation amounted to .06 of an inch, making a total for the past 24 hours of .15 of an inch with half an inch of snow which fell during the night. The high wind has caused the light snow to blow and drift and in many cases there is hardly a trace and in others the snow measures several inches in depth.

Unofficial information received before the wires went down indicates

that the storm extends as far west as Denver north into Nebraska and east into Missouri. It is expected that the severest portion of the storm will have passed over Topeka by dark and that during the night the mercury will gradually fall until the zero point is reached.

In Topeka the wind has whistled and howled throughout the day and night and played pranks of all kinds and a north considerable damage to exposed property. Numerous signs have been blown down, trees broken and uprooted, sidewalk show cases demolished, plate glass windows smashed and buildings relieved of their tin roofs. The streets and alleys are littered with the storm's wreckage and hundreds of telephone and telegraph wires as well as electric light wires are down or swinging dangerously near the walks and streets.

Store Front Blown Down.
Early this morning the front end of the W. S. Goss grocery store as well as the small building attached to it on the north was blown out by the force of the wind. Several people were sleeping in the second story of the building but none of them were injured. The steel flag pole erected on top of the Mulvane building by the government weather bureau is bent double by the force of the wind, though the old wooden pole retains its place on the southeast corner of the building.

Heavy damage has been done to the awnings along Kansas avenue and elsewhere. The big plate glass window in the Hurd building where the tuberculosis exhibition held being held was blown in as was one in the Felix Clothing company's store. A skylight in the city building went out under the force of the wind and caused a light damage to be sustained.

The wind caught the roof of the Throop hotel, which is of tin and rolled it up like a blanket and transferred it to the center of Fourth street where it remains a plaything for the gusts of wind which sweep down the street. Miss Lena Church was attempting to cross the state house grounds this morning on her way to work and was not far from her feet in such a gust of wind that her face was badly bruised and her nose broken.

One of the chimneys on the west end of the Victoria hotel at 118 West Sixth avenue was blown down about 2 o'clock this morning. A shower of bricks fell on the south second story porch of the Topeka hotel at 122 West Sixth. The boards of the flooring of the porch were broken up and the bricks were scattered all over the pavement below.

The Devon Is Damaged.
The tin roof which covers the porch at the Devon apartment let go early in the storm.

The plate glass front at the Central drug store is a wreck from the wind's force.

The big electric sign which has had a conspicuous place over George Burgum's cigar store and advertises his makes of cigars since its morning early last night and lies on the Kansas avenue pavement a total wreck.

The chimney on the Lowman chapel near the corner of Third and Kansas streets was blown down and the contents were scattered all over the pavement below.

Half a dozen sidewalk show cases and their contents were scattered the length and breadth of Kansas avenue, while awnings flap about in the fierce wind and are whipped themselves to pieces.

At the Dudley farm south of the city several hundred feet of fence was blown down, the roof blown off of the hay shed and the wind mill went down early in the storm. It is expected that reports from the disarray of the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies were down in dozens of places as did the wires of the independent and Bell Telephone companies, though the local lines of the latter are working in fairly good shape.

The Bell telephone wires were working all right this morning, the State Journal markets coming that way.

Big Electric Sign Down.
The large electric sign in front of the new smoke house of H. L. Tromp at 818 Kansas avenue was completely wrecked in the wind storm of last night. The sign has been in use only about six weeks and cost \$250.

The Crawford bill boards in many sections of the city were blown over by the wind last night. Roy Crawford this morning stated that nearly all of their bill boards had suffered considerably, but that he was unable to estimate the loss.

A short post in front of the Rosser Brothers' drug store at 803 Kansas avenue, which was used as a mooring for guy wires was broken off this morning and the wires broken.

Two Girls Hurt.
Miss Alena D. Church and Miss Nellie Scott, both employees of the Santa Fe general offices, met with accidents today which were caused by the high wind. Miss Church, who works in the treasurer's office, was on her way to work when she fell to the sidewalk, blown over by the wind and sustained a fractured nose. She was taken to her home, 622 West Eighth. Miss Scott works in the freight auditing department. On account of the heat falling in the part of the building in which she works, she was allowed to go home for the day. On her way across the state house grounds the force of the wind caused her to fall. She fainted from the fall. Robert S. Morrison, also an employee of the freight auditing department, saw Miss Scott fall and assisted her to her home, 807 West Tenth. She is the daughter of Henry C. Scott, a Santa Fe official.

May Drop to Zero.
Advises received late this afternoon by the weather bureau indicate a moderation in the temperatures may be expected tomorrow. While the mercury may reach the zero mark tonight as predicted early during the day the probability is that it will not reach this point and at any rate not go below it. At 2 o'clock the wind was blowing from the northwest at the rate of 50 miles an hour, which is perhaps about the average speed during the day.

The wind has reached 66 miles an hour twice during the past 24 hours, first at 8 o'clock this morning and then again at 8:30, though this speed was maintained for but a short space of time.

During the 24 hours ending at noon today the wind has blown 860 miles a continuous average of nearly 40 miles an hour and this period includes Thursday afternoon when the wind at times amounted to scarcely more than a breeze.

The wind in all probabilities will subside about sundown and then there will be a noticeable drop in the temperature.

The mercury has been almost stationary since 7 o'clock when it marked 22, the same point recorded at 2 o'clock this afternoon though it has bobbed about some in the meantime.

The total precipitation during the past 24 hours has amounted to .12 of an inch and the forecast indicates fair weather today and tonight with a continuation of low temperatures. The temperature has dropped forty degrees in twenty-four hours. The following are the temperatures since 7 o'clock:

7 o'clock 22 11 o'clock 20
8 o'clock 21 12 o'clock 20
9 o'clock 20 1 o'clock 20
10 o'clock 19 2 o'clock 20

Cold in Santa Fe Offices.
The employees of the Santa Fe general office building are finding it hard to keep warm today. In some departments the heat is sufficient, especially on the east side of the building. But on the west side and especially in the northwest corner there is very little heat. The general offices are heated by the Edison steam heat and vacuum pump which is used in the heating system was broken last night. About 50 employees of the freight auditing department on the fifth floor were allowed to go home this morning. The remaining employees in these two departments are working under their own power.

The heating system is receiving repairs today, and will probably be all right by tomorrow.

Trouble to Operate Trains.
The Santa Fe is having considerable trouble in operating its trains east today and also the east bound trains out of Topeka. There are several breaks in the wire east of Lawrence and into Kansas City. Just east of the town of Lawrence, the wires are out, while larger breaks occur near Wilder and Frisbie. The only methods of handling the trains between Lawrence and Kansas City is by following the time card. The Santa Fe wires are all up west. The Santa Fe and the eastbound trains are not far behind schedule time.

Neither the Rock Island nor the Union Pacific have a wire to Kansas City and none of the trains are running on time, although most of them are not over an hour or two late.

Schools Are Dismissed.
Four of the city schools have been dismissed for the day, Clay, Washington, Jackson and Van Buren. Both Washington and Van Buren schools are old buildings and the wind shook them considerably this morning and the board of education desired to take no risk. At Jackson a chimney blew over about eight o'clock this morning and the tin roof is being gradually torn away by the wind. A big section of the tin roofing fell to the ground about noon. The smoke stack on Clay school blew down.

A chimney on the building occupied by the Mt. Carmel Coal company at 103 West Ninth fell over on the roof this morning as a gust of a high wind passed over the building.

Blew in Window, Sash and All.
One of the freak actions of the storm is in evidence at 730 Kansas avenue, in the upper story of the building occupied by J. L. Van Houten and Charles Bennett. This is one of the older Kansas avenue buildings and here the window sash and all was blown into the building by the force of the wind.

The tin roof on the building just south of the one occupied by George Burghart at 801 Kansas avenue is rolled up in a compact mass and while it affords no protection in case of precipitation of any kind, it remains on the building.

During the height of the storm last night the larger hotels of the city swayed and rocked before the force of the wind and many of the more timid patrons spent the later hours of the night at other places than in their beds.

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Today's Storm Scarcely Ever Equaled in the West.

Barometer Reached the Minimum Record at Chicago.

BLEW 72 MILES GALE.

The Roof of the Opera House at Lamonte, Mo.

Blown Against Freight Train a Block Away.

WIRES DEMORALIZED.

In Most of the States West of Chicago.

Rock Island Loses Track of Its Trains in Iowa.

Chicago, Jan. 29.—Rain, snow and sleet and a high wind which reached a maximum of 72 miles at Kansas City, created climatic chaos in the middle west today. Trains were delayed and telegraph wires were prostrated in every direction, particularly west of St. Louis and north of Chicago. The barometer in the office of the local weather bureau stood at 29, the minimum record, but little higher than the known record anywhere in the country. Although the middle west was in the clutches of a gale which wrought some property damage in various sections and as in Iowa, took on the guise of a blizzard, no such disaster was reported or predicted in the present instance.

The most serious damage reported in early dispatches was at Lamonte, Mo., where the roof of the opera house was blown against a freight train standing a block away, injuring two persons. The weather map issued today was in appearance almost without precedent. The isobars indicating points of equal air pressure, wound like a lopsided spiral over the middle west, centering in Chicago, where the gale was expected to break later in the day and extending as far west as St. Louis, where the barometer reading was 3 higher.

Wires Nearly All Down.
Wires were down in every direction and reports were missing. West of Chicago it was possible for only four states and territories, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico and Arizona to get in their reports which was accomplished by using unaffected wires south along the Mexican border.

The wind blew 70 miles an hour at Springfield, Mo., 46 at St. Louis, 58 miles an hour at Omaha, 66 miles at Des Moines and Detroit and 48 at Galveston. At the time these reports were received the velocity in Chicago was only eight miles, but the result of the storm traveling from Kansas where it started yesterday and moving towards Lake Michigan, has justified the prediction of a gale before sundown with snow and a sharp fall in temperature.

The demoralized condition of the telegraph wires west was attributed to sleet. The general offices of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad for many hours were unable to learn the whereabouts of trains stalled or delayed in a blizzard in Iowa.

Hotel Reported Demolished.
St. Joseph, Mo., Jan. 29.—That a tornado demolished the Tremont hotel and several buildings at Macon, Mo., is the report brought here this morning by a traveling man. Efforts to confirm the rumor are unavailing. Further information is to the effect that the damage consisted of the unroofing of the Tremont hotel and overturning of a dwelling nearby. A child was injured.

Heavy Gale at Bennington.
Bennington, Kan., Jan. 29.—A heavy gale from the west accompanied by snow and sleet has been blowing since yesterday afternoon doing considerable damage to telephone lines, small buildings and windmills. Not for years has this section experienced a storm of such violence and duration. The full extent of damage is not yet learned. Reports still coming in.

Found in His Room Shot.
New York, Jan. 29.—Conrado Danielson, a Port Rican, was found lying on the floor of his room at the Hotel Carlton in West 54th street, shortly after midnight today unconscious and with a bullet hole in the right side of his head. The shooting is surrounded with considerable mystery inasmuch as the hotel management denies that it was of attempted suicide. Danielson lived at the hotel with his wife and one child. He was taken to Roosevelt hospital, where it was said he would probably die.

OFFICERS OF THE KANSAS DAY CLUB AND MEN WHO WILL SPEAK AT TONIGHT'S BANQUET



S. B. HASKINS,
President,
"Political Independence."



E. E. GLASSCOCK,
Larned, Kansas,
"Limitation of Pealty."



O. C. HULL,
College University,
"College Man and Politician."



O. W. BROWN,
Baker University,
"Kansas."



J. B. DYKES,
Lebanon, Kansas,
"Free Government."



W. D. VANCE,
Belleville, Kansas,
"The Battle."



B. H. GRIGSBY,
Chanute, Kansas,
"The Independent Voter."